Syllabus
Bioc 537 – Advanced Crystallography Seminar

Time and location:
Thursdays, 2:30-3:30 pm, Keck 102.

Instructors (office hours by appointment):

Dr. George Phillips	GRB W200Q	georgep@rice.edu
Dr. Jane Tao	Keck Hall 326	ytao@rice.edu

Course objectives and expected learning outcomes:

- To evaluate the research articles from the primary literature to understand and analyze advanced topics in X-ray crystallography, with an emphasis on fundamental principles, research methodologies, and emerging research topics.
- To improve scientific communication skills through explaining conclusions and methodology to the group and fielding questions.

Course structure: Class meetings may have one of two structures:

1. In "journal/topic" meetings, each participant briefly describes one or two recent research articles that may be of interest to the group from an assigned journal or set of journals. The paper(s) are distributed to the group early in the week to allow time for group members to read the paper before the meeting.
2. During "in-depth" meetings, one participant presents his or her research for discussion using a presentation of the background, key findings, problems to be solved and conclusions.

Readings: Readings are generally from the primary literature.

Attendance and participation: Attendance is required; active participation is expected. Email one of the instructors before class if you will be absent.

Exams: No exams.

Grading: Grading is Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory based on participation in discussions, presentations of research papers, and attendance. Course can be repeated for credit.

Rice Honor Code: Students are required to use proper citations and follow other practices outlined in the Rice Honor Code information on Academic Fraud and Acknowledgement of Sources:
http://honor.rice.edu/honor-system-handbook/

Accommodations for students with disabilities: Any student with a documented disability needing academic adjustments or accommodations is requested to speak with the instructor during the first two weeks of class. All discussions will remain confidential. Students with disabilities also should contact Disability Support Services in Allen Center.